

NOTICE AND INVITATION TO OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (OAH) STAKEHOLDERS OF MARCH 24, 2010 COMMUNITY FORUM

You are invited to participate in a Community Forum on Enforcement Cases and the Office of Administrative Hearings (“OAH”) on **Wednesday March 24, 2010, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Enforcement jurisdictions include Department of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), Department of Environment (DDOE), Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Mental Health (DMH) Department of Public Works (DPW), Department of Transportation (DDOT), Office of Planning, Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR), and Taxicab Commission.

The Forum is part of an ongoing effort by OAH to assess and respond to the needs of its litigants, particularly self-represented parties. It will bring together community members from a variety of professional backgrounds – government, faith-based, legal, and business (as well as representatives of the client community) – to share their experiences and discuss how administrative litigation before OAH in the area of enforcement cases can be made more user-friendly.

This event is sponsored by OAH and The Columbus School of Law of The Catholic University of America (“CUA”). My office (CUA) will lead the Forum. Last year, my office was awarded a two-year Bellows Scholar Fellowship to undertake a study of “Access to Justice and Community Involvement in the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings.”

The Forum will be conducted as a facilitated meeting covering the following topics: 1) the most challenging issues facing parties, 2) the kinds of support (from the OAH, from lawyers, and from others in the community) that would be most helpful in addressing these issues, and 3) the best way to develop resources for parties.

The Forum will include the following components:

- Introductory remarks from Chief Administrative Law Mary Oates Walker
- Presentation by principal administrative law judges
- Facilitated discussion to identify needs of parties appearing before the OAH
- Facilitated discussion to identify resources that could be developed

Your involvement in the Forum is critical to its success, and we sincerely hope you will attend. The Forum will be held **at 441 4th Street NW, Room 250 North**, from 1 to 4 p.m. You will need a picture ID to be admitted to the building.

Pre-registration is required. To register, or if you would like more information, please contact me at the following email: mullen@law.edu. or call Faith Mullen, Assistant Clinical Professor, The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law at (202) 319-6613.